access to all records relating to measurements. The necessary corrections or modifications should then be made in the survey records and new records prepared where necessary. In the absence of a complete resurvey, the Member hoped that this would improve matters and produce the desired effect in the long run.

Presidents' reply.—As regards resurvey, this is what I find stated by the Dewan at the last Session of the Assembly, *viz.*, that, if the minor circuit is incorrect, that means that the frame-work is incorrect and that could be set right only by a resurvey which would be very costly. Of course, you have also mentioned that. Everything resolves itself into a question of finance.

You have referred to the fact that concessions similar to those allowed in the case of lands on the sides of the Neyyar and Chittar rivers should be extended to the rivers in the Shencottah taluk. If the conditions are alike, Government do not see why the concessions allowed in respect of alleged encroachments on the sides of the Neyyar and the Chittar should not be extended to the lands bordering the rivers mentioned by you. The suggestions made by you will receive due consideration.

Member.—More than 500 encroachment cases have been sent up by the P. W. D. authorities to the Tahsildar. These encroachment cases were taken up by a maistry of the department who had absolutely no knowledge of chain survey. The cases are pending before the Taluk authorities. If early orders regarding the extension of the concession in the case of lands bordering the rivers mentioned by me are not issued, I think that all these cases will be proceeded with and the people will be put to heavy loss.

President.—So you pray for early orders.

Member.—Yes.

President.—The necessary action will be taken.

15. Difficulties experienced by jenmies in the collection of tax on pandarapattom lands demised on Kanapattom.

Mr. Nilakantaru Nilakantaru (Member, Jenmi, Kottayam Division) said that jenmies generally demised *pandarapattom* lands on *kanom*, stipulating in the *kanom* deeds that the tax due to Government on the lands concerned should be paid by the *kanapattom* tenants. In spite of such stipulations in documents, the tenants would not pay the tax to the Government, nor would the Government demand tax from them. The Member complained that it was hard that such tax should be collected from the jenmies instead of from the tenants who enjoyed the lands. If the tax due from several tenants was paid by the jenmi, he found it difficult to realise the same from the tenants afterwards, and he was put to much loss from the consequent civil suits. The Member therefore prayed that instructions might be issued for the tax on *pandarapattom* lands demised on *kanapattom* being collected from the tenants in possession and enjoyment of such lands, in cases where the documents specified that the tax should be paid by them.

President's reply.—The difficulties mentioned by the Member can be removed only by means of legislation. This representation will be considered in connection with the Bill to amend the Jenmi-Kudiyan Regulation now engaging the attention of the Government.

16. Loss caused to jenmies when kanapattom lands are acquired by Government.

Mr. Nilakantaru Nilakantaru (Member, Jenmi, Kottayam Division) said that, when *kanapattom* lands were acquired by Government, the practice was to award three-fourths of the price of the land to the jenmi and one-fourth to the tenant, as also three-fourths of the value of improvements to the tenants and one-fourth to the jenmi. The Member complained that, on the basis of a new ruling of the High Court, the above procedure had been modified and that the jenmies were being paid at present only a small amount as compensation based on the annual income from the land, which caused heavy loss to the jenmies. He, therefore, prayed that orders might be issued by the Government for the compensation being distributed between the jenmies and the tenants in accordance with the old practice.

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President's reply.—This representation will also receive consideration in connection with the Bill to amend the Jenmi-Kudiyan Regulation.

17. Certain needs of the Cardamom planters.

Mr. U. M. S. Mohidin Pillai Rowther (Member, Devicolam taluk) spoke about certain needs of the cardamom planters. He said at the outset that the cardamom ryots of the High Ranges were experiencing great hardship on account of some of the recent orders of the Government affecting them. Those hardships were aggravated by the apathy of the departmental officers who were responsible for carrying out the orders of the Government. They only looked to the interests of their respective departments and not to the welfare of the ryots. Those orders, he said, were quite against the spirit underlying the Cardamom Rules dated the 28th Karkatakam, 1080, passed during the time of Dewan Mr. V. P. Madhava Rao, C. I. E. The Rules provided for the assignment of cardamom lands on easy terms. Attracted by these Rules and certain concessions held out to the ryots such as allowing them to gather twigs and thatching grass and to quarry stones free of charge for purposes of constructing buildings, many people rushed in for cardamom lands and were pursuing that industry well, encouraged by the sympathetic attitude of the local officers. In accordance with the Rules of 1089, many people had put in applications for lands and entered on them and effected improvements thereon at much cost and labour. Before the lands could be registered, the Government by an order passed in 1096 absolutely prohibited further registry of lands within the Cardamom Hills Reserves. Taking advantage of this order, the Revenue subordinates began to mercilessly enforce the provisions of the Land Conservancy Regulation against the applicants. Although the Government had subsequently modified the order to the extent of registering occupied lands improved upon by *bona fide* occupants, the Revenue subordinates without making adequate enquiries were taking steps under the above Regulation much to the detriment of the occupants.

The Member next said that, under the Cardamom Rules, any person who cut down trees of four feet in girth and above without permission was liable to pay double seigniorage on the trees felled. The officers of the Forest Department were strictly enforcing this provision obviously to increase the forest revenue, but in no case did they make local inspection and enquire into further details such as the necessity for cutting down the trees. The Member said that the enforcement of this provision caused great hardship to the ryots. The trees on the cardamom gardens were not a source of revenue to the Government and they had not hitherto received a cash by their disposal. Such being the case, the Government would not be losers if the ryots were allowed to freely handle the reserved trees on their gardens. To remove the above hardship, he suggested that the whole cardamom area, as demarcated by Mr. A. W. L. Vernede, a former Superintendent of the Cardamom Hills, might be transferred to the control of the Revenue Department, and that such of the lands within that area as did not contain many royal trees might be assigned to *bona fide* applicants.

The Member next said that, although the Government had ordered the disafforestation of certain swampy areas within the Cardamom Hills Reserve, applicants for those lands were not forthcoming because of the stringency of the rules of the Forest Department. Many people were deterred from going in for lands in the Cardamom Hills Reserve and settling there because of the restrictions imposed on them by the several departmental orders such as levying additional grazing fees for cattle, prohibition against taking and utilising materials for the construction of buildings, prohibition against further registry of lands, prohibiting the importation of tobacco otherwise than through licensed tobacconists, etc. He said that the orders on those points were unknown to the ryots and were passed without ascertaining their wishes. He prayed that, in future at least, orders affecting the ryots be passed after careful consideration and that arrangements be made for circulating such orders among the ryots.

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